

# NLG NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the Numismatic Literary Guild Inc.

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Fall 1999

## 1999: A BASH TO REMEMBER

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK... DAVID T. ALEXANDER

The 1999 Numismatic Literary Guild Bash took place in Room 13 of the Rosemont Convention Center near Chicago's O'Hare International Airport. For the third time in recent years, the event was scheduled for the same room which housed the American Numismatic Association's widely acclaimed "World Series of Numismatics," the "Jeopardy!"-style quiz program which has been dominated by NLG contestants since 1991.

The stage properties of the World Series provided a staging area for veteran emcee Wendell L. Wolka's trusty band of shills, which this year included Bill Horton, Gar Travis, Docke, John Burns, Chris Connell and our NLG couple, Greg and Lisa Heim.

As the evening's events fired up, Guild member and outgoing ANA President Anthony Swiatek took the podium to present the national organization's Service Leadership

Awards to Midwest club activist Jerry Lebo and ANA Executive Director Edward C. Rochette.

NLG's famed "humor in a jugular vein" was loosed hilariously when Emcee Wolka announced that a new die variety of the Capped Bust quarter was now known to have used ANA Past President Florence Schook as its model. The series, of course, ended in 1837. Then there was the one about the hobo nickel engraver carried away by his skill. He engraved a fourth leg on his 1937-D three-legged Buffalo nickel! For modern "crack-out" collectors of "slabbed" coins came the heartfelt advice: "Buy the Pliers before the Slab!"

At this stage in the evening's program, Numismatic News Editor Dave Harper rose to the podium to honor another numismatist "that gave more to the hobby" — some 40 years of service as lecturer and exhibitor: noted ancient coin student Chris Connell.

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### TOM DE LOREY 1999 CLEMY HONOREE

The presentation of the Clemy, the NLG's most coveted award, was more dramatic than usual this year because it represented not only a tribute to the honoree but also a eulogy for his immediate predecessor. The untimely death of the 1998 recipient, Burnett Anderson, last Nov. 26 left the Guild — for the first time in its history — without an incumbent Clemy winner to choose a successor.

The selection was made instead by the 20 surviving Clemy recipients of the past. They cast their votes in a two-stage process, first nominating up to three candidates on a preliminary ballot and then choosing one nominee from among the three top vote-getters. This procedure resulted in more than 20 nominations initially, and in an extremely competitive race among the three finalists.

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An active Episcopal priest, Connell is especially well known to NLG, where his musical talents have enlivened several recent Bashes. Editor Harper presented Connell with the latest Krause Publications Numismatic Ambassador Award, to the enthusiastic applause of his audience.

A few years ago, Connell had written what came to be regarded as the unofficial anthem of the Guild, "In the Good Old NLG." In 1999, he shifted talents, providing instead of song (his guitar still packed after a recent move to New York's Long Island) a dramatic reading of his NLG hit song, "I'm a Coin-Show Junkie."

Continuing a feature introduced some decades ago starring the late Walter Breen, Scott A. Travers took the stage with ANA President Swiatek to present NLG's version of "The Amazing Karnak," in which the psychic Swiatek divined the questions sealed in a succession of envelopes by reading aloud their answers.

The most topical humor was inspired by the morning's spirited debate (ANA's answer to "The Jerry Springer Show"), between Professor Theodore V. Buttrey and researcher Michael J. Hodder, over the authenticity of Western assay bars.

Interlocutor Wolka presented a magnificent spoof on the widely publicized 50-coin statehood quarter program.

"We're proud to bring you, not the winners ('cause everybody knows them) but the exciting, never-before-published list of runner-up themes for each state. Yes, the ones that didn't make it!" The list was long and the humor merciless, sparing neither small states nor large:

**RHODE ISLAND:** The Teeny-Tiny State

**HAWAII:** Eat your Heart Out, New York!

**KENTUCKY:** We're not Arkansas and damn proud of it!

**ALASKA:** Damn Big, Damn Cold!

**ALABAMA:** At least we're not Mississippi!

**MISSISSIPPI:** We Make You Feel Good about YOUR STATE!

**OREGON:** If you're coming from California, keep moving!

**WASHINGTON:** If they didn't let you stay in California or Oregon, keep moving!

**VIRGINIA:** Land of Government Lawyers.

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Who needs teeth?

**WISCONSIN:** Eatus Cheesus aut morticus (Eat Cheese or Die)

**IDAHO:** A potato a day lands you in the hospital.

**ILLINOIS:** (Two figures back-to-back) Site of the Buttrey-Hodder Debate.

**INDIANA:** Thank God we have Purdue!

**NEBRASKA:** Corn Fields! It may be boring, but we like it!

**NORTH DAKOTA:** (Under a view of a tundra in a July blizzard) WHY not MINOT?

**SOUTH DAKOTA:** Riviera of the Dakotas.

Punctuating the program at intervals were "Millennium

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## **NLG NEWSLETTER**

Since 1968, the official publication of the Numismatic Literary Guild, Inc.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**  
**ED REITER**

12 Abbington Terrace  
Glen Rock, NJ 07452  
TEL. (201) 612-0482  
FAX (201) 612-9581

**ELECTED DIRECTORS:**  
**TOM DE LOREY**  
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**TREASURER:**  
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**DAVID T. ALEXANDER**

PO BOX 780  
MAHOPAC, NY 10541  
TEL: DAYS 212-582-2580  
EVE: BEFORE 10 PM  
914-628-7535



*Clifford Mishler, left, president of Krause Publications, presenting the 1999 Clemy Award to Thomas K. DeLorey at the NLG Bash in Chicago.*

*Clemy cont. from page 1*

The ultimate winner, announced at the Bash, was Thomas K. DeLorey, a longtime Guild member, officer and worker who has distinguished himself through the years in numerous capacities as a writer, editor, researcher, cataloger, grader, authenticator, professional numismatist and invaluable asset to the hobby in general and NLG in particular.

Clifford L. Mishler, president of Krause Publications, made the presentation, completing the cycle he started a year earlier when he accepted the 1998 Clemy on Burnett Anderson's behalf.

His introductory remarks included not only a capsule review of Tom DeLorey's accomplishments, but also a heartfelt farewell to Burnett,

who had been his longtime associate, colleague and friend during many years as KP's Washington correspondent.

Following are the remarks Cliff made in leading up to the Clemy presentation in Chicago:

This should be a joyous occasion . . . the presentation of the annual "Clemy" recognition . . . but it is. . . for me at least . . . and I would believe for most of you as well . . . a sad occasion . . . sad because I am obliged to appear before you as a stand-in for the late Burnett Anderson in presenting the 1999 "Clemy."

For the first time in the more than three decade long history of the "Clemy," the most recent honoree has passed from among us before having had the opportunity to choose and present the recognition to his



*David C. Harper, left, editor of Numismatic News, bestowing KP's Numismatic Ambassador Award on NLG stalwart Chris Connell at the Bash.*

successor. That that is so is, let me assure you, a deep and profound loss, not only to his family and Krause Publications, but the numismatic writing fraternity and the hobby community at large as well.

Having stood before you a year ago to accept the 1998 "Clemy" on Burnett's behalf – I believe that was the first time that had happened as well – because he found himself compelled to pass on attending the Portland ANA convention in favor of being in Hutchinson, Minnesota, to attend the swearing-in of a nephew as judge of that state's Appellate Court, conducted by the governor, I would like to share with you a few words in tribute to my late associate and highly regarded friend, before proceeding with the announcement of this year's recipient.

*Cont. on page 4*

While Burnett Anderson was named recipient of the 1998 "Clemy" at the Portland NLG Bash on August 7 of last year by Alan Herbert, he did not learn of the tribute having been accorded to him by his peers until the following Monday, at a luncheon he hosted in Iola for his associates and friends on the Krause staff, a luncheon which over the years had become an annual tradition during his visits to "headquarters." While my comments on the occasion of the impromptu presentation in Iola were quite flippant, his reaction was anything but.

Burnett later termed the recognition "a magnificent surprise," in acknowledging its receipt to NLG executive

director Ed Reiter, indicating he was looking forward to joining his writing colleagues at the 1999 Bash in Chicago. That he was eminently deserving of the recognition – bestowed for writing skill, dedication to numismatics and sense of humor – certainly goes without saying, as this veteran journalist had previously received such government and public-sector recognitions as the Arthur S. Fleming Award to the Outstanding Young Men in the Federal Service in 1956; the USIA Distinguished Service Award in 1963; the Edward R. Murrow Award for Excellence in Public Diplomacy from Tufts University in 1972; the Hutchinson Medal of the University of Rochester for Distinguished Service in 1977; and, he retired from the

State Department's USIA in 1979 with the permanent rank of Career Minister.

"I am indeed delighted to join such a distinguished company," Burnett informed NLG executive director Reiter, adding this remark concerning his numismatic writing career: "It is hard to realize that I have now been at it for more than 18 years. During that time, numismatic writing has brought me all the good things that go with coin and currency collecting, openings to interesting people and to the world in all directions."

Burnett was an interesting and unusual individual, ever the diplomat, but very cunning and incisive in his pursuits. In accomplishing his missions – he never, ever accepted "no" as

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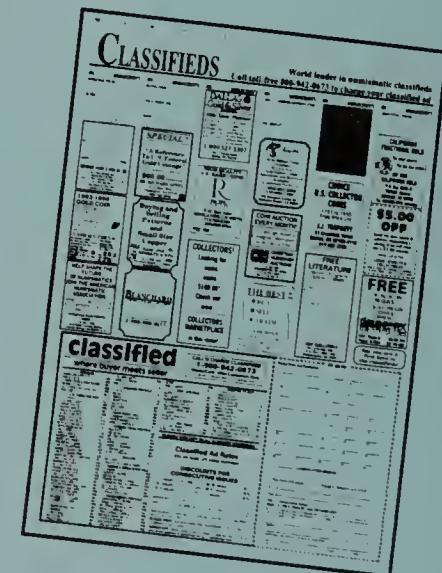
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an answer, nor failure as a result – he was always able to accommodate to the realities of a situation. Allow me to share with you 22 words which capture much of the essence of the many-faceted Burnett Anderson:

Wisdom . . . Unique . . . Intense  
Trust . . . Incisive  
Knowledgeable  
Understanding . . . Confidential  
Respect . . . Classicist  
Fond memories  
Crackerjack reporter  
Keen . . . Friendly  
Ability to relate . . . Interesting  
Unusual . . . Special

Those words were drawn from a *Numismatic News* tribute to his passing – on Nov. 26, 1998 – contributed by recent colleagues in the hobby community at-large, in describing Burnett Anderson and his ability to accomplish his missions, accommodate realities of the day, and serve the hobby community.

Ever the humorist at the same time, his occasional letters which interspersed contributions were invariably entertaining, even as they were informative and incisive. An illustration of that humor, which I believe captured the essence of the man, and which he often offered me in both written and spoken form: "I continue to be paid more than I earn, but less than I am worth, which is a most agreeable situation!"

Now, to turn to the subject of the 1999 "Clemy" Award recognition.

As I referenced previously, this recognition has been bestowed annually since 1968, the year of NLG's founding, when the late Clement F. Bailey, then a member of the numismatic writing staff at Krause Publications, was presented an arcane old typewriter of the style represented in the NLG logo. This presentation was the genius of NLG founding stem-winder Lee Martin, at our first gathering in San Diego.

Spray painted gold, at considerable expense I'm sure, the "Golden Typewriter Award" was presented to Clem – who became the namesake of the award – in a jocular vein, accompanied by the implo- ration that it would be his duty to carry it back to the next year's gathering in Philadelphia for presentation to his successor. There, the chain of responsibility was passed to Ed Rochette. Quite aptly, in 1970 at St. Louis, the "Clemy" came full circle when it was deposited back in the hands of Lee Martin as the third honoree.

Recognized widely as the highest honor of NLG, one that is much aspired to by all numismatic writers, the "Clemy" is annually bestowed as a recognition of writing skill, dedication to numismatics, sense of humor and dedica- tion to the organization. Normally the names of three nominees are submitted by the NLG board to the previous year's winner, who selects his/her successor . . . this year,

for the first time in the history of the award, Burnett's untimely passing necessitated a change in procedure, so each of the 20 living past recipients were invited to submit three nominations, with the top three nominees being submitted to the same group for a second balloting to determine the winner.

I am privileged to have been a past recipient of the "Clemy," having received my honor here in Chicago in 1991. Thankfully, by that time the tradition of physically hoisting the "Golden Typewriter" home and then back to the next year's gathering for presenta- tion to successors had long since ended, so I did not have to carry it to Orlando for presenta- tion to Bob Julian the fol- lowing year. The "Clemy," by the way, today reposes enshrined in a place of honor at ANA headquarters in Colorado Springs.

This year's 32<sup>nd</sup> recipient of the "Clemy" is certainly a most deserving individual who has been well known to most of you for many years . . . yet he is still a relatively young man!

More importantly, a member of the coin collecting communi- ty since his youth, this year's "Clemy" Award recipient has for many years evidenced a singular dedication to raising numismatic awareness among average collectors. And, there should be little doubt that he will continue doing so for many years to come.

*Cont. on page 8*

# 1999 NLG Awards

Following is a complete list of winners in the 1999 Numismatic Literary Guild Writers' Competition. Congratulations to one and all!

## CLASS I BOOKS

### 1. BOOK OF THE YEAR

The work having the greatest potential impact on numismatics: "American Numismatics Before the Civil War, 1760 - 1860," by Q. David Bowers

### 2. BEST SPECIALIZED BOOK

- (a) United States Coins: "The Half Cent Die State Book," by Ronald Manley
- (b) World Coins: "Monumental Coins: Buildings and Structures on Ancient Coins," by Marvin Tameanko
- (c) U.S. Paper Money: "Standard Catalog of United States Paper Money," by Chester L. Krause, Robert Lemke and Robert Wilhite
- (d) World Paper Money: "Standard Catalog of World Paper Money, Specialized Issues," by Colin R. Bruce II and Neil Shafer
- (e) Tokens & Medals: "Medallic Portraits of Washington," by Russell Rulau and George Fuld
- (f) Numismatic Investments: "Scott Travers' Top 88 Coins Over \$100," by Scott A. Travers
- (g) Museum & Exhibition Catalogs: No award

## CLASS II-A U.S. COMMERCIAL NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES

### 3. BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES

- (a) Coins: "Coins, Lies and Videotape," Barry Stuppler and Rick Rhoads, *Coin Connoisseur*
- (b) Tokens & Medals: "In Praise of the Art Medal," David T. Alexander, *COINage*
- (c) Paper Money: "Y2K Strikes at U. S. Currency," Robert J. Leuver, *COINage*

### 4. BEST COLUMN

"My Two Cents' Worth," Ed Reiter, *COINage*

### 5. BEST ISSUE

*Coin Magazine*, November 1998; Robert Van Ryzin, Editor

## CLASS II-B WORLD COMMERCIAL NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES

### 6. BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES

- (a) Coins: "Stars, Dots and Flowers," David O'Harrow, *World Coin News*
- (b) Tokens & Medals: "Guatemalan Tokens," Charles L. Jason Jr., *World Coin News*
- (c) Paper Money: "Camaraderie Highlights Annual Memphis Event," Howard A. Daniel III, *World Coin News*

### 7. BEST COLUMN

"Just for Beginners," Wayne G. Sayles, *The Celator*

### 8. BEST ISSUE

*World Coin News*, December 1998, David C. Harper, Editor

## CLASS III

### NON-PROFIT OR CLUB NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES NATIONAL CLUB PUBLICATIONS

### 9. BEST ARTICLE

"A Group of Restruck Patterns," George Fuld, *The Numismatist*

### 10. BEST COLUMN

"The Editor's Introduction," Harry Salyards, *Penny Wise*

### 11. BEST ISSUE

*Paper Money*, November-December 1998, Gene Hessler, Editor

## REGIONAL CLUB PUBLICATIONS

### 9. BEST ARTICLE

"A Return to Classicism: Italian Coinage in the First Quarter of the Twentieth Century," Steven Roach, *The Sentinel*

### 10. BEST COLUMN

No award

### 11. BEST ISSUE

*The Numismatic Association of Southern California Quarterly*, 1999 No. 1, Gary Beedon, Editor

## CLASS IV NUMISMATIC NEWSPAPERS

### 12. BEST SPOT NEWS STORY OR CONTINUING COVERAGE OF DEVELOPING STORY IN NUMISMATICS

"Western Assay Bars," David T. Alexander, *Coin World*

### 13. BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES

- (a) Coins: "Half Cents," Robert W. Julian, *Numismatic News*

(b) Tokens & Medals: "The Medals of Laura Gardin Fraser: First Lady of the American Medallion," Fred L. Reed III, *Coin World*

(c) Paper Money: "Circulation Finds a Thing of the Present," David C. Kranz, *Numismatic News*

#### 14. BEST COLUMN

"On the Scene," Clifford L. Mishler, *Numismatic News*

#### 15. BEST ISSUE

*Numismatic News*, Aug. 4, 1998, David C. Harper, Editor

#### CLASS V NON-NUMISMATIC NEWSPAPERS

#### 16. THE MAURICE M. GOULD MEMORIAL AWARD

No award

#### CLASS VI AUCTION CATALOG

#### 17. BEST AUCTION CATALOG

(a) Coins & Currency: Stack's, "The John Whitney Walter Collection: The Coins of 1796"

(b) Books and Exonumia: Stack's, "The Americana Sale"

#### CLASS VII COMMERCIAL PUBLICATIONS

#### 18. LEE MARTIN FOUNDER'S AWARD for Best Investment Newsletter:

Maurice H. Rosen, *The Rosen  
Numismatic Advisory*

#### 19. BEST DEALER-PUBLISHED MAGAZINE OR NEWSPAPER

*Rare Coin Review*,  
Bowers and Merena Galleries

#### CLASS VIII ALL-AROUND PORTFOLIO

#### 20. BEST ALL-AROUND PORTFOLIO:

Mel Wacks

#### CLASS IX THE NLG NEWSLETTER

#### 21. BEST WRITER IN THE NLG NEWSLETTER:

Carl C. Honore

#### CLASS X AUDIO-VISUAL

#### 22. RADIO: Best Radio Series:

No award

#### 23. AUDIO: Best Audio Program on Numismatics:

No award

#### 24. TELEVISION: Best Television Report on Numismatics:

CNBC, Michael R. Fuljenz,  
Guest

#### 25. VIDEO: Best Video Presentation: "All About Elongated Coins," Lee Martin

#### 26. BEST WEB SITE ARTICLE

"Vignettes on the Banknotes  
of the Palestine Currency  
Board," Howard M. Berlin

#### 27. BEST WEB SITE

"Coin Connoisseur," Barry  
Stuppler, Publisher

#### CLASS XI CLEMENT F. BAILEY MEMORIAL AWARD

#### 29. CLEMENT F. BAILEY MEMORIAL AWARD for Best New Writer: Timothy Rolands, *Numismatic News*

#### EXTRAORDINARY MERIT AWARDS

*The United States Early Silver  
Dollars, 1794-1803*, an outstanding  
new reference work by Jules  
Reiver

*Gold Coins of the Charlotte  
Mint, 1838-1861*, a thoroughly  
researched book by Douglas  
Winter

*The Kennedy Half Dollar Book,  
An Attribution and Pricing Guide*,  
an eminently useful book by  
James Wiles, Ph.D.

*Planning Your Rare Coin  
Retirement*, a highly informative  
how-to book by David L. Ganz

*The Commemorative Trail*, an  
enlightening and entertaining  
journal edited with flair by  
Helen Carmody-Lebo

*The Numismatist*, a consistently  
excellent journal skillfully edited  
by Barbara Gregory

*Investor's Profit Advisory*, an  
insightful, well-focused news-  
letter published by Michael R.  
Fuljenz

*The John Jay Pittman Collec-  
tion – Part Two*, a stunning catalog  
prepared with great care by  
David Akers Numismatics Inc.

*The Harry W. Bass Jr. Collection –  
Part One*, a handsome catalog  
beautifully fashioned by Auctions  
by Bowers and Merena

*The Dr. Juan XII Suros Collection*, a  
dazzling catalog extraordinarily  
well illustrated by Superior  
Stamp & Coin

*Coin Universe*, a fact-packed, con-  
sistently timely Web site main-  
tained by Collectors Universe

*Heritage On-Line*, a sophisticated,  
market-oriented Web site main-  
tained by Heritage Rare Coin  
Galleries

A few highlights of our recipient's qualifications to receive the "Clemy":

He has long been a generous, cheerful teacher of numismatics, through both the written and spoken word, in seminar and educational program forums, and as an exhibitor.

He has made significant contributions in the U.S. coin fields, particularly where silver dollars, die varieties, error coins and coin grading are concerned.

He spent a five-year tenure as the writer of the *Collector's Clearinghouse* feature in *Coin World*, and today serves as a co-editor of the *Comprehensive Catalog and Encyclopedia of U.S. Coins*.

He was on board at the launch of the ANA Certification Service's entry into grading in 1978, serving with that group until 1984.

He has frequently contributed articles to *The Numismatist* over the years, including one on *The Medals and Tokens of Thomas I. Elder*, which won him the Wayte and Olga Raymond Award recognition.

He has been a longtime contributor to both the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* and the *Guide Book of United States Coins*, the storied *Red Book*.

He has specialized in many collecting realms through the years, for the past several years focusing his attention on the

coinage of Honduras, which he collects by die varieties.

He has had a world of involvement at ANA conventions down through the years, including an active role in NLG activities, including as an NLG Bash participant since 1975.

Personally, I invariably become indebted to him several times annually, when he or one of his associates pass me a little envelope bearing a handful of curiosities, often stickered dollars, which he has reserved for me when they have come his way.

This is, by the way, the second time I have had the honor to bestow a deserved recognition on him this year, having presented him the Numismatic Ambassador Award sponsored by *Numismatic News* this past April during the Chicago Coin Club meeting held in conjunction with the annual Chicago International Coin Fair.

An active member of the Chicago Coin Club, along with Central States, the ANA, TAMS, the Medal Collectors of America, and many other organizations, he served as president of the Shelby County (Ohio) Coin Club and for several years directed the club's annual coin show.

He has, in conclusion, spent many years helping the average collector learn more about numismatics, believing knowledge is something to be shared, and showing us all how to do it!

That's Thomas K. DeLorey, your 1999 "Clemy" Award recipient!

## **ROLL OF HONOR CLEMY AWARD WINNERS 1968-1999**

1968	Clement F. Bailey
1969	Edward C. Rochette
1970	Lee Martin
1971	Margo Russell
1972	Virginia Culver
1973	Maurice M. Gould
1974	Eva B. Adams
1975	Ray Byrne
1976	Chester L. Krause
1977	Richard S. Yeoman
1978	Lee F. Hewitt
1979	Abe Kosoff
1980	Glenn Smedley
1981	Arlie Slabaugh
1982	Eric P. Newman
1983	Kenneth Bressett
1984	Donn Pearlman
1985	Walter Breen
1986	Ed Reiter
1987	David Alexander
1988	James L. Miller
1989	Q. David Bowers
1990	David L. Ganz
1991	Clifford Mishler
1992	R.W. Julian
1993	Russell Rulau
1994	Elvira Clain-Stefanelli
1995	Beth Deisher
1996	Col. Bill Murray
1997	Alan Herbert
1998	Burnett Anderson
1999	Thomas K. DeLorey

## NEW AWARD HONORS BURNETT ANDERSON

A new award honoring the late Burnett Anderson has been established by Krause Publications, which employed him for many years as its Washington correspondent.

The Award for Excellence in Numismatic Writing will serve the dual purpose of perpetuating Anderson's memory and, at the same time, recognizing others who, like him, have rendered exemplary service as chroniclers of the numismatic scene.

Although it has been founded and endowed by Krause Publications, the award is sponsored jointly by the American Numismatic Association and the American Numismatic Society – and the

Numismatic Literary Guild also will play a key role in administering it. Each year, the ANA and ANS will nominate one person apiece for consideration, and the NLG will arrange for the nominees' qualifications to be reviewed by an appropriate panel, including two journalists from outside the numismatic community. This panel will make the ultimate determination.

KP's president, Clifford L. Mishler, formally announced the award at the 1999 ANA convention banquet in Rosemont, Ill. He also announced the selection of Burnett Anderson as the posthumous recipient of the inaugural award, as Anderson's sons Mark and Lee looked on proudly.

"Burnett's writings," Mishler

said, "were always readily identifiable, with or without a byline, earmarked by a distinctive style of writing, delivered with clarity, brevity and incisiveness. He was, as has frequently been referenced to me, a writer's writer."

Anderson joined KP in 1981 after a long career in government service, including 28 years with the U.S. State Department, many of them spent with the U.S. Information Agency, of which he served for several years as deputy director.

Over the years, he received many honors – capped last year, at the ANA convention in Portland, Oregon, with the announcement that he was the 1998 recipient of the NLG's coveted Clemy Award.

We thank the members of NLG whose articles have enriched COINage magazine since 1964.

We  
Invite  
Your  
Submissions



Moments" by NLG Executive Director Ed Reiter. Ed reported, tongue in cheek, that prominent numismatists were appearing in an adaptation of the "Star Wars" series titled "Slab Wars," with PCGS founder David Hall portraying Darth Grader and NGC's David Lange appearing as Slabba the Hutt.

ANA news this year could be compared to a blank two-sided coin. NOTHING HAPPENED. A new definition of "one red cent": the lawsuit settlement received by former Executive Director Peggy Hofmann!

Under the rubric "The Lord doth Provide" was the Buttrey-Hodder showdown, which might yet provide for the American Trial Lawyers Association. Then there's the proposed J.T. Stanton commemorative silver dollar with one side inscribed "I'm Running for ANA President." The flip side: "Maybe I'm Not!"

The awards presentations and this year's Clemy Award bestowal are described in detail elsewhere in this issue of the NLG Newsletter.

It can be said that in its overall impact, the Chicago (or Rosemont) ANA Bash ranked with the best of them. At least it did for your editor, who has attended some 20 Bashes from coast to coast!

Hearty congratulations must go to our Hoosier interlocutor Wendell Wolka, Ed Reiter and

all who pitched in to continue the stellar success of our annual NLG get-together!

published in *The Mint Mark* and *World Wanderings*. Sponsored by Mark Benvenuto and James Barry.

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## NLG Welcomes 5 New Members

Five new members have joined the NLG since our last report.

Here are the latest additions to our roster:

**George Cuhaj** of Iola, Wis., a member of the editorial staff of Krause Publications who has written extensively on transportation tokens, a subject in which he developed a keen interest while living in New York City. Sponsored by David C. Harper.

**Dan Freidus** of Ann Arbor, Mich., an academic adviser at the University of Michigan who writes a regular column for *Coin World* and also is the author of the chapter on Higley coppers in "The Token: America's Other Money," a book published by the American Numismatic Society. Sponsored by Beth Deisher.

**Stan Klein** of South Miami, Fla., an author who has written articles for the Numismatic Guaranty Corporation of America and www.coinsite.com. Sponsored by Robert S. Koppelman.

**Alfred G. "Gar" Travis III** of Wilmington, N.C., owner of Travis Numismatic Consulting, whose writings have been

Ute Wartenberg of New York City, executive director of the American Numismatic Society, former assistant keeper in the British Museum as curator of Greek coins, author or editor of six books on history, numismatics and papyrology and editor of *Coin Hoards*, a publication of the Royal Numismatic Society. Sponsored by David T. Alexander.

In addition to the five newcomers, one longtime Guild stalwart, **David Alexander**, has converted from regular to life membership.

Besides enjoying membership benefits in perpetuity, a life member also receives the Guild's .999-fine silver 25th anniversary medal, a copy of the 25-year history booklet and a scroll suitable for framing. The history booklet will be familiar reading to "lifer" Alexander, since he wrote it.

To apply for life membership, write to Ed Reiter, Executive Director, 12 Abington Ter., Glen Rock, NJ 07452.



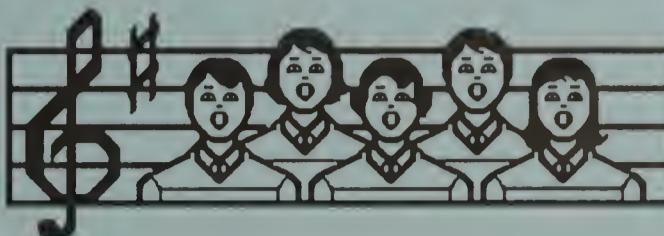
## ANS ACHIEVES PARODY WITH ANA

By ED REITER

For years, the American Numismatic Association has been a favorite target of satirists at NLG Bashes. This year, I decided to give equal time to the American Numismatic Society – which, after all, was already sweating under the spotlight ... that is to say, basking in the limelight ... at the rollicking debate over Western assay bars.

Given the classical ambience the ANS has long exuded, it might have been more appropriate to have the number performed by a satyr, rather than a satirist – but then, I'm getting to be a pretty old goat, so that seemed close enough.

The timing was perfect, for the ANA convention was held this year in Chicago – and the last



time that occurred, in 1991, my Bash song had paid tribute to the ANA, which was then observing its centennial.

To underscore the symmetry, I chose the same song as the vehicle for my parody. With civil war erupting on the debate floor, what could be more appropriate than "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." Extending the parallelism still further, I retained the same first line. If anything, it was even more timely in 1999, as you will soon discover. (The 1991 ANA parody was published in a previous edition of

the *NLG Newsletter*.)

I'm pleased to report that even after sitting through the Bash and witnessing my performance, numerous ANS stalwarts – including Eric Newman and Ute Wartenberg, the society's new executive director – remained on speaking terms with me. In fact, I'm told the parody may be printed in some forthcoming ANS publication – in English, yet! Best of all, I haven't yet been subpoenaed by the New York State Attorney General's Office.

Without further ado, then ... and before legal problems do indeed result in a further adieu ... here's my little ditty. I call it "The Battle Hymn of the Greek Republic."

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of John Ford.  
They have gazed on Doctor Sheldon's coins when they were being stored.  
They have glimpsed the brouhaha about the Western assay hoard.  
Old feuds go marching on.

Glory, glory, ancient scholars. They love Greece and all its squalors.  
Their concern is not with dollars. Except in a bequest.

When the ANS was founded back in 1858, It decided U.S. coinage wasn't worthy of debate.  
After all, it had been issued 1,500 years too late By Vandals, Goths and Huns.

Glory, glory, Eric Newman, Give 'em hell like Harry Truman.  
Your research is superhuman. You even do U.S.

As we stand upon the threshold of millennial advance,  
ANS's old-time members can't afford a backward glance.  
For they're nearing a millennium with mighty new expanse: The year 1001.

Glory, glory, Michael Hodder. You provide prodigious fodder  
On the curious and odder, Including ANS.

As it moves from Mount Olympus to Manhattan's lower end,  
ANS has picked a messenger to help the gods descend.  
Ute Wartenberg, we're watching and our ears we gladly lend,  
For time is marching on.

Glory clings to Rome and Sparta. But the time has come to chart a  
Numismatic Magna Carta: B.C. is now A.D.



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c/o PO Box 937  
Millbrook, NY 12545



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